

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 H-02 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-05 TAR-01 /057 W
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P 021744Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9311

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EO 11652 NA

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR

SUBJ: HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SUGAR HEARINGS

REF: STATE 141876

1. FOLLOWING INFO FURNISHED IN SAME ORDER AS POINTS IN REF:

A 13 TO 16 US CENTS PER POUND.

B. RETAIL PRICE FOR DIRECT HUMAN CONSUMPTION SUGAR IS 13 US CENTS PER POUND; SUGAR FOR INDUSTRIAL USE PRICED AT 16 US CENTS PER POUND.

C. ZERO; VENEZUELA DID NOT EXPORT SUGAR DURING CY 1974
D LOCAL INDUSTRY HAS PROMISED DETAILED INFO ON THESE
POINTS BUT HAS YET TO FURNISH STATISTICS. DATA WILL BE PASSED TO
WASHINGTON WHEN AVAILABLE.

E AT PRESENT, CONSTRUCTION IS UNDER WAY ON FOUR NEW MILLS,
ALL OF WHICH SHOULD BE IN OPERATION WITHIN 2-3 YEARS. PLANS CALL
FOR THREE ADDITIONAL MILLS BEFORE 1980. ALSO, EXPANSION OF SEVERAL
EXISTING MILLS UNDER WAY OR PLANNED FOR NEAR FUTURE. CURRENT
NATIONAL DAILY CRUSHING CAPACITY PLACED AT 47,300 MT OF CANE;
BY 1980 THIS COULD BE 65-70 MT.

F ABOUT 4 PERCENT.

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G NO. HOWEVER, INDUSTRY IS CONTEMPLATING APPROACHING US

COMPANY (POSSIBLY AMSTAR) TO DISCUSS ARRANGEMENT FOR ENVISIONED
FUTURE EXPORTABLE SUPPLIES.

H VENEZUELAN GOVT OWNS 4 OF NATION'S EXISTING MILLS AND
HAS A SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL INTERST IN 2 OTHER MILLS. IT IS
LIKELY THAT DURING NEXT SEVERAL YEARS GOV WILL PROVIDE FUNDS FOR
EXPANSION OF A NUMBER OF PRIVATE MILLS (THEREBY GAINING A
FINANCIAL INTEREST IN THESE MILLS). LIKEWISE, SEVERAL MILLS
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND IN PLANNING STAGE BELONG TO GOV. PRICES
AT ALL LEVELS OF SUGAR INDUSTRY (FROM CANE TO RETAIL SALE AND
INCLUDING MOLASSES) ARE FIXED BY GOVT. IMPORT AND EXPORT OF SUGAR
IS CONTROLLED BY LICENSING AND MAY ONLY BE UNDERTAKEN BY
GOVT AGENCY OR ITS DESIGNATED AGENT.

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Message Attributes

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